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PCAccent for April 2009 - Vol. 2 No. 3  
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Welcome to PCAccent. This newsletter is an adjunct, an "accent" if you will, to the PCA's Web site and the PENnant. The Board of Directors will use PCAccent to keep you informed about PCA news and happenings.

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS NEWSLETTER! For comments or questions, send

email to PCA President Carla Mortensen. To subscribe or unsubscribe, please send mail to Membership Coordinator Kim Sosin. Email addresses for Carla and Kim can be found on the PCA's Web site:

<http://pencollectorsofamerica.com/>

If you have news that would benefit our members, please send an email to Deb Kinney - [debkinney@alumni.duke.edu](mailto:debkinney@alumni.duke.edu), PCAccent Editor.

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\*\*\* Message from the President - Carla Mortensen \*\*\*  
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The challenge of having nominal oversight of a membership organization is figuring out just exactly what members want to get, and what they want to give. The ideal balance keeps people feeling interested, involved, and supported. In my capacity, I am also painfully aware of how stretched most of us are between our families and our jobs, able to create a little space here and there for our hobby/ies and interests.

The irony that has become apparent during the last year is -- that the PCA activity that is of greatest value to our membership is the PENant -- and yet, it is the activity that demands the most from all of us. The magazine, as everyone knows, does not spring fully formed from Richard Jarvis's magnificent silver-locked head. It is the culmination of considerable effort on behalf of collectors, dealers, scribblers, editors, graphic designers, and publishers. In short, it is A LOT OF WORK, and most of it is done on a volunteer basis, and written by many of the same people.

By now, those of us involved in the PENant have "gone to the well" and asked the same helpful folks to write for us time after time. While they have not squawked (too much), I want to ask you, the PCA member, for your feedback and ideas about how to fill the magazine. Would you like to send ideas to Richard Jarvis and me for things you'd LIKE to see written but don't feel you can write and want us to help? Do you want us to come up with themes for the upcoming issues and put them out for bid? Would you be willing to write responses to chosen questions? Would you like to co-write an article with another member? Would you like to write a profile of a "Pen Pioneer?" Would you like to hear more about what other chapters are doing around the country and the world? Help us help you continue to read, use, and refer to the PENant by telling us how the magazine can continue to be the flagship organizational benefit of the PCA.

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\*\*\* Volunteer Opportunities - Deb Kinney \*\*\*

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Do you have some time and talent to help the PCA be all that it can be?

If so, please contact our outreach coordinator, Allan Quiat, e-mail [abquiat@yahoo.com](mailto:abquiat@yahoo.com), and let us know what you are interested in doing. Opportunities abound in the areas of membership, Pens for Kids (at the shows), PENnant article generation, etc. Let us hear from you!

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\*\*\* Pens for Kids - Linda Bauer \*\*\*

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PCA will again hold a Pens for Kids workshop at the Chicago Pen Show. The workshop will be Sunday, May 3 at 1 p.m. Linda Bauer, PFK coordinator, will lead "kids of all ages" on an exploration of the marvels of fountain pens and pen collecting. Each child attending gets their own fountain pen. Bring the family to the pen show and introduce your kids to Pens for Kids.

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\*\*\* Upcoming Pen Shows - Deb Kinney \*\*\*

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Chicago Pen show - April 30 - May 3 at the Westin-O'Hare Hotel. For more information contact Don Lavin - [Dlpens@aol.com](mailto:Dlpens@aol.com) 847-272-1996. Visit the website at [www.chicagopenshow.com](http://www.chicagopenshow.com)

Boston Pen show - May 30 - May 31 at the Somerville Holiday Inn. For more information contact Rob Morrison [robmorrison@charter.net](mailto:robmorrison@charter.net) 828-712-2145. Visit the website at [www.vintagewriting.com](http://www.vintagewriting.com)

Triangle Pen show - June 11-14 at the Embassy Suites. For more information, Contact Terry Mawhorter [tmawhorter@columbus.rr.com](mailto:tmawhorter@columbus.rr.com) 614- 619-5025. Visit the website at <http://www.raleighpenshow.com/>

Please let me know if you have local pen club news you want the members to know, like meeting dates/times, etc. [debkinney@alumni.duke.edu](mailto:debkinney@alumni.duke.edu)

Now you can view all upcoming pen shows on our new site:

[http://www.pencollectorsofamerica.com/index.php?option=com\\_events&Itemid=37](http://www.pencollectorsofamerica.com/index.php?option=com_events&Itemid=37)

Nothing says I love you like a free membership to the PCA:

<http://pencollectorsofamerica.com/index.php>